

Planning and Community Development Newsletter



SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES RPO ANNOUNCES PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Southern Alleghenies RPO Announces Public Comment Period for the Draft FY 2021-2024 TIP

The Draft 2021-2024 Southern Alleghenies TIP is more than just a listing of the RPO's capital transportation projects over a 4-year period. It is a data driven process to identify and program transportation needs, with limited dollars, in a manner that best serves the public. It is available for a 30-day public review and comment period beginning on May 14, 2020 and ending on June 12, 2020. A virtual public meeting to discuss the Draft TIP has been scheduled for <u>May 21, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.</u> The virtual public meeting information is listed below:

Join Zoom Meeting here.
Meeting ID: 8149496500

Call in number: (646) 558-8656 Meeting ID: 8149496500

To view, download, and provide comment on the RPO's Draft TIP, please visit SAP&DC's website <u>here.</u>

For questions related to the Draft TIP, please contact Brandon Peters, Transportation Program Manager, at (814) 949-6543 or bpeters@sapdc.org.

GREENWAYS MINI-GRANT APPLICATION PERIOD EXTENDED



Applications for Southern Alleghenies Regional Greenways Mini-Grant Program, for the 6th round of the program, has been extended to June 26, 2019 at 4.p.m. due to the COVID-19 shutdowns and concerns with applicants not having access to engineering firms, planners, etc.

Information on program guidelines is available on SAP&DC's website here:

Greenways Mini-Grant.

For questions or more information, please contact Stacy LoCastro at (814) 949-6510 or slocastro@sapdc.org.

LTAP ANNOUNCES DROP-IN COURSES



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the LTAP learning experience has gone virtual!

LTAP is presenting a series of weekly LTAP Virtual Drop-ins centered on various safety and maintenance topics. These sessions are not virtual classes; they are informal 30 to 45 minute live sessions focused on networking and sharing information with other municipal roadway personnel. Whether you are new to the virtual world or have a lot of experience, you will enjoy meeting online with LTAP staff and other municipalities to learn and discuss information critical to your job.

LTAP staff will start the session with a short presentation and then open the discussion to attendees to ask questions and share their experiences. LTAP will guide the discussion to keep it focused and accurate.

Be a part of this NEW virtual learning experience from LTAP. Sign up today! Save the date for the next Drop-ins (all starting at **noon**):

- Trail Crossings: Signs, Markings, and Lights Thursday, May 21st
- Act 31: Truck Restrictions Thursday, May 28th

Registration will open a week before each session. You can register here.

Note: The Drop-ins are not eligible for Roads Scholar credits but certificates of participation will be presented.

If you have any questions, or are unsure how to register, please contact Matthew Bjorkman at (814) 949-6553 or mbjorkman@sapdc.org.

PA WALKWORKS

Funding Opportunity through the PA WalkWorks Program



WalkWorks has announced its fourth round of assistance to advance policy development related to active transportation. Once, again, grants will be offered to a limited number of municipalities and other governmental bodies to assist with the development of Active Transportation Plans, Complete Streets policies and/or Vision Zero policies. These plans and policies are essential

to WalkWorks efforts to establish activity-friendly routes that connect people to everyday destinations, thereby expanding opportunities for physical activity.

The application deadline for this opportunity is **July 2**, **2020**.

The full announcement, including the application and appendices, is available on the <u>PA</u> <u>WalkWorks</u> website.

SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES REGION WALKING TRAILS DATA

The Southern Alleghenies Region contains hundreds of miles of walking, hiking, and biking trails within its six-county footprint. SAP&DC placed infrared counters on seven trails in the region to quantify how many people were utilizing the natural recreational opportunities in the region. Counters were placed on the following trails:

- The Shuster Way Heritage Trail
- H&BT Trail (Three Trailheads)
- James Mayer Riverwalk Trail
- Path of the Flood
- The Old Pennsylvania Pike Trail (TOPP)
- Somerset Lake
- Thousand Steps

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the trails in the Southern Alleghenies have seen increased usage, as residents have sought recreational opportunities. An ArcGIS Dashboard recording the usage of trails through the region is available for viewing at here.

You can also visit here to view the SAP&DC 2019 Trail Usage Report.

SAP&DC has the capacity to place additional counters on trails throughout the region. If you would like to request a counter installation on a trail, please contact Matthew Bjorkman at (814) 949-6553 or mbjorkman@sapdc.org.

SAP&DC OPERATIONS UPDATE

In compliance with Governor Wolf's statewide shutdown, SAP&DC's office is closed until further notice. Staff are currently working from home and are available via phone and email.

Please know that we are continuing to advance projects and initiatives that are important to the region. Grant programs will continue to be administered, and committee meetings

will be held as scheduled, albeit virtually. SAP&DC is maximizing the use of virtual meetings and will continue to do so as long as necessary.

Please stay safe and healthy during the coming weeks!

Visit our Website

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